

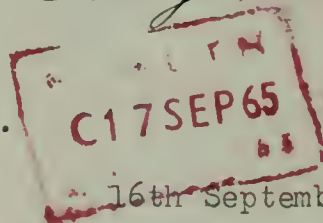


J. W. ARMSTRONG
BOROUGH SURVEYOR
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
OFFICE HOURS - 9 - 10 A.M.
TELEPHONE 2289

YOUR REF.

OUR REF. JWA/SN/M.1.

*Municipal Offices,
Penryn, Cornwall*



Sir,

I enclose herewith four copies of the Medical
Officer of Health's Report for the year 1964.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Public Health Inspector.

The Secretary,
Ministry of Health,
LONDON. W.1.

BOROUGH OF PENRYN

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1964.

THE MAYOR OF PENRYN: Councillor W.G. Beswetherick, J.P.

CHAIRMAN: Alderman F. Mark Tallack.

ALDERMEN: E.C. Gwyther, E.W. Medlin, and J.F.C. Tregenza.

COUNCILLORS: J.A. Barringer, A.C. Dunstan, Mrs. M.A.L. Edwards,
W.G.H. Kingdon M.B.E., E. Murray, C.H.G. Probert,
A.R. Sisson, D.H.L. Thomas, S. Thomas, E.A.G.
Webber, Mrs. D.M. Williams.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

V.E. Whitman, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.
Health Area Office, The Leats, TRURO.
Tel: Truro 2202/3.

BOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

J.W. Armstrong, M.A.P.H.I.,
Municipal Offices, 15, Broad Street, PENRYN.
Tel. Penryn 2289/2203.

CLERK:

Mrs. S.P.A. Northey.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the health and sanitary conditions in the Borough of Penryn during 1964.

The year was a healthy one with not a single case of notifiable infectious disease notified. This happy state of affairs has, I fear, led parents of infants to feel there is now no great urgency about getting their children protected against diphtheria, whooping cough, lockjaw, poliomyelitis and smallpox. The proportion of children protected against these diseases has fallen continuously during the past 5 years. The only exception to this was the spurt in the smallpox vaccination rate in 1962 when there was an epidemic of the disease in South Wales.

I should like to take this opportunity, in the last report I shall make to you, of thanking all of you for the consideration and support you have given me over the past seventeen years. I should also like to thank Mr. Campbell, Mr. Armstrong and all their staffs for their friendship and co-operation over the years.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

V.E. WHITMAN

Medical Officer of Health
Borough of Penryn.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Except where otherwise stated the figures in brackets throughout the report are the comparable figures for 1963.

Area Acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	829
Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,830 (4,830)
Number of inhabited houses			..	..	..	..	..	..	1,526 (1,496)
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£119,513 (£119,513)
Product of penny rate		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£465.7.4 (£465.7.4)
Number of houses built or under construction since 1945								..	633 (612)
Number of families on waiting list for houses						..	..	..	159 (166)

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	Males 49 (37)	Females 37 (47)	Total 86 (84)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor	..	..	.. 1.02 (1.02)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, Penryn	..	..	.. 18.2 (17.8)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population, England and Wales		..	.. 18.4 (18.2)

Illegitimate Live Births

	Males 1 (1)	Females 3 (2)	Total 4 (3)
Percentage of total live births	..	..	.. 4.7 (3.6)

Still Births

	Males 2 (2)	Females 1 (3)	Total 3 (5)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births, Penryn	..	..	.. 33.6 (56.2)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births, England and Wales		..	.. 16.4 (17.3)

Deaths

	Males 25 (43)	Females 18 (30)	Total 43 (73)
Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor	..	..	.. 1.14 (1.14)
Death rate per 1,000 population, Penryn	..	..	.. 10.1 (17.2)
Death rate per 1,000 population, England and Wales		..	.. 11.3 (12.2)

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

	Males 4 (2)	Females 2 (1)	Total 6 (3)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, Penryn	..	..	.. 69.8 (35.7)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, England and Wales			20.0 (20.9)
Maternal deaths	..	..	.. Nil

Statistics since 1950

The figures in brackets in this table are those for the U.K.

	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>	<u>Still Birth Rate</u>
1950	19.1 (15.8)	11.6 (11.6)	NIL (29.6)	NIL (22.7)
1951	17.5 (15.5)	11.2 (12.5)	41.7 (29.7)	27.0 (23.0)
1952	19.5 (15.3)	10.1 (11.3)	24.7 (27.6)	14.0 (22.7)
1953	17.0 (15.5)	13.2 (11.4)	27.8 (26.8)	14.0 (22.5)
1954	19.9 (15.2)	11.4 (11.3)	56.1 (25.4)	21.2 (23.5)
1955	21.4 (15.0)	12.0 (11.7)	40.8 (24.9)	20.0 (23.2)
1956	16.9 (15.6)	12.7 (11.7)	25.6 (23.7)	12.7 (22.9)
1957	16.9 (16.1)	13.2 (11.5)	26.0 (23.1)	37.5 (22.5)
1958	15.8 (16.4)	12.9 (11.7)	41.7 (22.6)	76.9 (21.6)
1959	15.1 (16.5)	15.0 (11.6)	NIL (22.2)	14.3 (21.0)
1960	14.0 (17.1)	11.5 (11.5)	31.1 (21.7)	30.3 (19.7)
1961	14.3 (17.4)	12.9 (12.0)	41.7 (21.4)	NIL (18.7)
1962	19.1 (18.0)	13.2 (11.9)	10.2 (21.4)	29.7 (18.1)
1963	17.8 (18.2)	17.2 (12.2)	35.7 (20.9)	56.2 (17.3)
1964	18.2 (18.4)	10.1 (11.3)	69.8 (20.0)	33.6 (16.3)

The fluctuations to which statistics relating to small communities are liable are well illustrated by the Penryn statistics since 1950 given in the table above. To take one detail only the death rate in 1963 was 17.2 per thousand whereas in 1964 it fell to 10.1 per thousand. There was no discoverable reason for the high rate in the former year and there is none for the low rate in 1964. One must bear this caution in mind when reading the analysis of causes of death in the table below. A reduction of 50% in the number of deaths from coronary disease in a population of a million would make the headlines whereas it can only be regarded as a matter of chance when it occurs in a population of less than 5000. It is nevertheless important to compile and study these tables as it is only by such means increases in the incidence of diseases such as leukaemia or diabetes can be detected and the cause sought.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1	1	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0	2	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	1	2	0
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	1	3	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	0	1	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	0	1	1	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	8	3	7	3
Diabetes	0	1	0	1	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	7	11	12	3
Coronary disease	6	5	9	9	4
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0	0	1	0

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
Hypertension with heart disease	0	2	1	2	0
Other heart disease	6	6	10	10	9
Other circulatory disease	4	3	4	2	3
Pneumonia	2	2	0	6	2
Bronchitis	1	4	3	5	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	0	0	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0	1	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0	0	0	1
Congenital malformations	0	1	0	0	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	5	6	6	4	5
Motor vehicle accidents	0	0	0	1	1
All other accidents	1	1	1	1	1
Suicide	0	0	0	1	0
	<u>46</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>43</u>

	<u>DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS</u>		
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
0 +	4 (2)	2 (1)	6 (3)
1 - 4	0 (2)	1 (0)	1 (2)
5 - 14	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (1)
15 - 24	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)
25 - 34	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
35 - 44	0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (2)
45 - 54	2 (5)	1 (1)	2 (6)
55 - 64	3 (6)	1 (5)	3 (11)
65 - 74	6 (14)	4 (6)	10 (20)
75 +	10 (11)	9 (16)	19 (27)
	<u>25 (43)</u>	<u>18 (30)</u>	<u>43 (73)</u>

Perinatal Mortality Rate 1964

Penryn	67.4	per	thousand	births,	live	and	still
No. 3 Health Area	31.3	"	"	"	"	"	"
West Cornwall	35.0	"	"	"	"	"	"
Whole County	32.4	"	"	"	"	"	"
England and Wales	28.2	"	"	"	"	"	"

This recently adopted index is obtained by adding the year's total of stillbirths to the number of infant deaths within 7 days of birth and calculating the proportion this forms per thousand live and still births. As the number of live and still-births in Penryn was only 89 each still-birth and neonatal death has to be multiplied overeleven times, thus the total of 6 is magnified to the alarming figure of 67.4.

Of the 3 still births, all of which occurred in hospital, 1 was due to malformation about which nothing can be done in our present state of knowledge, and 2 to inhalation of liquor during birth. Of the 3 neonatal deaths one was due to malformation, one to cerebral injury sustained during birth and one to failure of the lungs to expand adequately. The first of these occurred at home, the others were hospital cases.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

1. Clinics

Infant Welfare Clinic

52 (53) sessions were held at which there were 1834 (1500) attendances. The average was thus about 35 (28) per session.

2. Ambulance Service and Hospital car Services.

These services are based on Falmouth.

3. Home Help Service

During the year 7 (7) maternity and 52 (57) other cases were given help in their own homes.

I should like to record here my gratitude to Mrs. Eustice who has organised the work of this service in the Borough over the past seventeen years with such efficiency and humanity. Many people have been enabled by the help of this service to continue happily in their own homes who, without it, would doubtless have had to be cared for in institutions.

4. After care

No grants of free extra nourishment were made during the year.

5. Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>
General cases	97	70	48	46	50
Nursing visits	2888	1787	1751	1475	1730
Midwifery cases	44	42	66	58	61
Midwifery visits	850	612	921	946	937
Ante Natal visits	472	458	601	747	740
Home visits to children under 5	2454	2966	2914	2878	2939
Health visits to old persons	590	223	519	349	355

Miss E.J. Jennings, Assistant County Nursing Officer reports:

The work of Mrs. Wallis, the district nurse/midwife and that of Miss. Clarke, the Health Visitor, remained at roughly the level of last years work.

Once again the perinatal mortality rate is high in Penryn. It cannot be over emphasized that early ante natal care with the consequent early recognition of adverse symptoms can do much to prevent the conditions which give rise to still births and the deaths of infants during their first week of life.

27 expectant mothers attended the Ante natal Relaxation Classes given by the Health Visitor and District Midwife.

On the 31st December 1964, 127 little children in Penryn under 5 years of age were unprotected against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. Protection was offered; it is free and these diseases are still killers.

The Meals on Wheels Service, the Chiropody service and the Home Help service give invaluable help in the Borough. All three services play a very important part in maintaining the health and independence of the elderly.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

No infectious diseases were notified from Penryn during 1964

Poliomyelitis - Vaccination by means of the oral vaccine of all persons under 40 years of age continued throughout the year but records have been kept only in respect of children under 16 years of age. The number in this age group in Penryn is estimated to be 1270 and of these 607 are known to be protected by vaccination. This disappointing proportion is certainly too low to protect the Borough against an epidemic of the Blackburn type.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Here too the protection rate is far too low. 181 (184) of the children under five years of age are known to be protected by immunisation. This forms only 59.1% of the 306 children in this age group. I am assured that many more children have in fact been protected against both poliomyelitis and diphtheria but my figures are based on the records received.

Vaccination against smallpox

	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15+</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number vaccinated	-	6	-	-	6
Number re-vaccinated	-	1	-	5	6

TUBERCULOSIS

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>New Cases</u>		<u>Deaths</u>	
	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Pulmonary</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Under 64	2	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-
	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

2 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year and there were no deaths. There were no cases of or deaths due to non-pulmonary forms of the disease.

On the 31st December, there were 37 (36) respiratory and 11 (11) non-respiratory cases on the register.

Up to 31st December 961 (852) children, 118 (112) of them contacts with cases of tuberculosis, had received B.C.G. vaccination 843 (740) were dealt with under the scheme for school children who are now offered vaccination in their first year in the secondary schools.

30 mantoux positive children were examined by X-rays.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1964.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I beg to submit my annual report for 1964.

I would like to record my appreciation of the valued co-operation and friendly advice received from Doctor Whitman which has always been so readily given.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J.W. ARMSTRONG.

Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

There are some 1564 habitable dwellings in the Borough.

For the 3rd year no houses were erected by the Council.

It was unfortunate the tender for the eleven dwellings in St. Thomas Street could not be accepted.

A tender for 18 dwellings Phase II Permarin Road was at the end of the year forwarded for approval.

21 houses were built by private enterprise.

HOUSING ACT 1957 - SLUM CLEARANCE:

3 houses were demolished in Grays Yard.

HOUSING ACT 1961 - HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION:

3 properties are being dealt with informally.

HOUSING ACT 1936-57/PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936:

As a result of informal action repairs have been carried out to 17 houses, 1 after formal action.

1 house was dealt with by individual unfit house action. 2 houses which have been subject to Closing Orders previously were brought back into use as fit and improved houses.

RECONDITIONING OF HOUSES:

Number of houses improved with 5 standard amenities during the year is 20.

8 applications for grants were received.

The Council modernised 3 of their old properties in The Praze.

CIRCULAR NO. 42/67:

193 properties were briefly surveyed in response to the above circular, these houses contained 471 persons. Only 18 houses had all 5 amenities, 23 houses had 4, 10 houses had 3 and 11 houses had 2.

It does appear we have no slums, but we have an immense problem of worn out houses which appear incapable of improvement. Should compulsory powers to enforce the 5 amenities become law it will become increasingly apparent that many houses will not be capable of being improved at an economic cost.

REHOUSING:

With the absence of any new building it has not been possible to reduce our waiting list which now totals 159.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

REFUSE COLLECTION:

The amount of refuse continues to increase and some 1087 loads were deposited at Falmouth Borough's controlled tip at Trescobeas. A weekly collection is made from every dwelling house and trade premises in the Borough.

STREET SCAVENGING:

With three sweepers operating, this service is very satisfactory.

The 12 litter bins in various parts of the town are fairly well used by the public.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES:

There are 4 ladies and gents conveniences cleansed daily. The convenience on the Town Quay has been connected to the sewer.

A new scheme has been prepared for erection in Grays Yard which is centrally situated in the Town.

VERMIN INFESTATION

RODENTS:

Some 950 visits were made to 162 properties found to be infested with rats and mice. 576 other properties were also visited.

In addition 260 points were baited along the river banks, the bait used for prebaiting being sausage rusk with Warfarin as the main poisoning agent. Based on the actual "takes of poison" it is estimated that 500 rats and 80 mice were killed.

The annual test baiting of sewers was carried out, takes having been recorded in St. Thomas Street area, the estimated kill being 4.

The part-time rodent operator carries out all treatment strictly in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations. No charges are made for treatment carried out at dwelling houses.

INSECT PESTS:

4 flea and fly infestations were treated and assistance given with the destruction of 6 wasp nests.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

42 inspections of drainage systems were made. A scheme for the sewerage of Packsaddle area was approved and accepted.

Flush cisterns were supplied to seven hand flushed closets. One property was connected to a water carriage system.

46 properties have cesspools or septic tanks which are emptied as necessary.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK:

2 premises are registered for the retail sale of milk.

ICE CREAM:

13 premises are registered, 4 samples were forwarded for examination and were satisfactory.

OTHER FOODS:

Certificates were issued for the voluntary surrender of 286 tins of food.

Two complaints of food were considered by the Council, one tin of vegetable soup, also splits having aluminium specks, in neither case was a prosecution considered advisable.

STORAGE, PREPARATION & DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

There are 65 food premises, with an ever increasing number of Bed and Breakfast houses. Number and type of food premises as follows:-

Grocers	-	19	School canteens	-	2
Mixed	-	2	Chemists	-	3
Confectioners	-	4	Wholesale warehouse	-	1
Sweets	-	8	Fried Fish shops	-	4
Butchers	-	4	Cafes	-	2
Greengrocers	-	3	Licensed premises	-	13

WATER SUPPLY

This is supplied by the Falmouth Borough Council and has been adequate during the year.

There are 13 private supplies serving 18 properties otherwise all houses are on the mains.

15 samples were taken, 3 being unsatisfactory. One of these has been replaced by a new supply and improvements made to the other two.

The proposed development in the Packsaddle area is progressing and the water main for this area to be laid will remove several doubtful supplies.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957

There are 3 licensed plants in the Borough.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

All premises within the district have registered under the above order which includes 19 offices, 31 retail shops, 6 canteen establishments, 1 fuel store depot, 2 wholesale depots, 22 self employed and 3 clubs. In the 59 premises controlled by the Act there were some 222 people employed. Inspections have been made and the regulations are generally being complied with.

FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS ACT:

Premises	No.on Register.	No.of Inspect.	Written Notices.	Prosecuted
1.Factories in which Section 1, 2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the L.A.	-	-	-	-
2.Factories not included in 2 in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	34	12	3	-
3.Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.(exclud- ing out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	34	12	3	-

Particulars 1	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted 6
	Found. 2	Remedied. 3	to H.M. Inspect. 4	Referred by H.M.Inspect. 5	
Want of cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences	-	-	-	-	-
(a)Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b)Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c)Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

